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ABSTRACT

This study surveyed graduating seniors of East Carolina University relative to employment status immediately prior to graduation in the spring of 1974. The purpose of the study was to determine the number of graduating seniors who had accepted employment, the location of their work, and whether or not they were satisified with the employment offer. Other variables investigated were: (1) students who had offers but were still seeking employment; (2) students seeking employment but having no job offers; and (3) students not seeking employment due to further studies, military obligations, etc. These variables were categorized by degree level, sex, race, and marital status in a summary table, and by discipline and degree level in other tables. (Author)

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A Report on the Employment Status of Graduating Seniors at East Carolina University Spring 1974

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Office of Institutional Research

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Greenville, North Carolina 27834

May 1975

HE006 866

A Report on the Employment Status of

Graduating Seniors at East Carolina University

Spring 1974

Introduction

In cooperation with the General Administration of the University of North Carolina, the Office of Institutional Research at East Carolina University conducted a survey of graduating seniors relative to their employment status in the spring of 1974.

The purpose of this study was to survey prospective spring graduates concerning their employment status immediately prior to graduation. The survey instrument (Appendix A) included questions for those who had not accepted employment; such as, whether or not there had been a previous offer of employment, whether the graduate intended to further his studies, or whether he had not accepted employment for other reasons. The questions for those who had accepted employment concerned the location of their work and whether or not they were satisfied with the employment offer.

Report

I. Population:

The population for the survey included all East Carolina University students planning to complete degree requirements at the end of Spring Quarter 1974 as indicated by records in the Registrar's Office. Those completing programs in other quarters were not included.

A total of 1230 survey forms were delivered to the various schools and departments. Of this number, 830 completed forms were returned for a total response rate of 67.5%.

II. Procedure:

A. Computer generated questionnaire forms were prepared for all students who were to graduate at the end of Spring Quarter 1974 and who had applied for graduation. The student's name, address, degree, major, and date of graduation were printed on the questionnaire. (See Appendix A).

B. The questionnaires were then distributed to the departments or schools from which the student expected to graduate. This was approximately five weeks before graduation. Questionnaires were returned to the Office of Institutional Research after participants completed them. After graduation, questionnaires completed by students who did not in fact graduate were deleted.

C. Responses were coded and analyzed by the Office of Institutional Research.

III. Findings:

See Attached Tables.

IV. Comments:

A. Table I shows the total number of respondents, the percentage who have not accepted employment, the percentage who have accepted employment, and the percentage satisfied or not satisfied with the employment offer by degree level, sex, race, and marital status.

B. As can be seen in Table I, 17% of all respondents at the Bachelor's level reported employment. This percentage increases to 46% for the Master's level. With respect to sex, 24% of the males at the Bachelor's level reported employment compared to 14% for the females. However, this trend is reversed at the Master's level with a slightly larger percentage of females (48%) reporting employment than males (45%). As for breakdowns by race, there are no major differences from percentages reported for the total respondents. In regard to marital status, a slightly higher percentage of married students reported employment than single students at both degree levels.

C. It is interesting to note that 53% of the students receiving Bachelor's degrees were seeking employment but had had no previous employment offers. This compares with 38% for students receiving the Master's degree responding the same way on this item.

D. Table I shows further that 12% of the students at the Bachelor's level were not seeking employment due to further studies; 3% of the students at the Master's level planned to continue their education.

E. Of those students at both degree levels who had accepted employment, most were employed in North Carolina and were satisfied with their employment offer.

F. Table II shows the response rate, the percentage who have not accepted employment, the percentage who have accepted employment, and the percentage satisfied or not satisfied with the employment offer by degree level for each school or department in the University.

G. The following schools and departments were among those with the highest response rates: Allied Health, Business, Home Economics, Music, Nursing, Technology, Foreign Languages and Literatures, Geology, Health and Physical Education, History, Library Science, Mathematics, and Physics.

H. Graduating students in the following schools and departments were among those reporting the highest rates of employment:

Physical Therapy - Bachelor's level - 60%

Art - Master's level - 100% (Only one response)

Education - Master's level - 53%

Biology - Master's level - 100% (Only two responses)

Chemistry - Master's level - 100% (Only one response)

Health and Physical Education - Master's level - 50%

Mathematics - Master's level - 50%

Psychology - Master's level - 67%

Science Education - Bachelor's level - 50% (Only two responses)

Conclusions and Implications

Although the percentage of graduates indicating employment upon graduation appears low in most major fields, it should be kept in mind that this survey was intended to indicate the percentage employed immediately prior to graduation. Without doubt the percentage employed will increase after graduation. Other surveys are being conducted to measure the percentage of graduates employed at later periods following graduation. For example, this office is currently involved in analyzing a 1974 follow-up study of 1972 Spring Graduates. It is hoped that through the use of both types of employment status reports, a clearer picture of employment trends will emerge that will be of value to educators and to graduates.

Table I

EMPLOYMENT RESPONSE RATES FOR SPRING 1974 GRADUATES

BY DEGREE LEVEL, SEX, RACE, AND MARITAL STATUS

	Total Bachelor's	Total Master's	Bachelor's		Master's	
			Male	Female	Male	Female
Total Number of Respondents	726	104	296	430	56	48
Percentage* Who Have Not Accepted Employment:						
Had previous offer	13%	10%	14%	13%	7%	13%
No previous offer	53	38	41	61	45	29
Further studies	12	3	17	9	2	4
Other reasons	4	4	5	3	2	6
Sub-total	82	55	77	86	56	52
Percentage* Who Have Accepted Employment:						
North Carolina	13	39	17	10	38	42
Southeast U. S.	1	3	2	1	5	0
Elsewhere	3	4	5	3	2	6
Sub-total	17	46	24	14	45	48
Percentage* Accepted Employment, and:						
Satisfied with offer	63	69	70	56	76	63
Not satisfied with offer	10	17	10	10	8	26
Not sure	27	13	20	34	16	11

* Percentages based on number of responses.

Table I (Continued)

EMPLOYMENT RESPONSE RATES FOR SPRING 1974 GRADUATES

BY DEGREE LEVEL, SEX, RACE, AND MARITAL STATUS

	Bachelor's			Master's			Bachelor's		Master's	
	White	Black	Other	White	Black	Other	Single	Married	Single	Married
Total Number of Respondents	705	14	7	97	4	3	555	171	32	72
Percentage* Who Have Not Accepted Employment:										
Had previous offer	13%	7%	0%	10%	0%	0%	15%	9%	13%	7%
No previous offer	53	57	57	40	0	0	53	53	38	39
Further studies	12	21	29	3	0	0	12	10	3	3
Other reasons	4	0	0	4	0	0	4	5	3	4
Sub-total	82	85	86	57	0	0	84	77	57	53
Percentage* Who Have Accepted Employment:										
North Carolina	14	0	0	36	100	100	12	17	38	40
Southeast U. S.	1	0	14	3	0	0	1	2	0	4
Elsewhere	3	14	0	4	0	0	4	3	6	3
Sub-total	18	14	14	43	100	100	17	22	44	47
Percentage* Accepted Employment, and:										
Satisfied with offer	63	50	100	71	50	67	62	63	53	80
Not satisfied with offer	10	0	0	16	50	0	8	11	33	6
Not sure	27	50	0	13	0	33	30	26	13	14

* Percentages based on number of responses.

Table II

EMPLOYMENT RESPONSE RATES FOR SPRING 1974 GRADUATES

BY SCHOOL OR DEPARTMENT

	SCHOOL OR DEPARTMENT					
	ALLIED HEALTH (Total)		Speech, Language, & Auditory Pathology		Physical Therapy	Social Work & Corrections
	Bachelor's	Master's	Bachelor's	Master's	Bachelor's	Bachelor's
Departmental Response Rate:						
Number of Survey Forms Delivered to Department	107	4	14	4	11	53
Number of Completed Forms Returned by Department	86	2	8	2	11	46
Response Rate	80%	50%	57%	50%	100%	87%
Percentage* Who Have Not Accepted Employment:						
Had previous offer	14%	0%	13%	0%	30%	2%
No previous offer	57	50	37	50	10	77
Further Studies	8	50	50	50	0	6
Other Reasons	3	0	0	0	0	6
Sub-total	82	100	100	100	40	91
Percentage* Who Have Accepted Employment:						
North Carolina	14	0	0	0	40	6
Southeast U. S.	2	0	0	0	20	0
Elsewhere	1	0	0	0	0	2
Sub-total	17	0	0	0	60	8
Percentage* Accepted Employment, and:						
Satisfied with offer	56	0	0	0	57	100
Not satisfied with offer	0	0	0	0	0	0
Not sure	44	0	0	0	43	0

* Percentages based on number of responses.

Table II (Continued)

EMPLOYMENT RESPONSE RATES FOR SPRING 1974 GRADUATES

BY SCHOOL OR DEPARTMENT

	SCHOOL OR DEPARTMENT				
	Medical Records Science Bachelor's	Environmental Health Bachelor's	Medical Technology Bachelor's	ART Bachelor's	ART Master's
Departmental Response Rate:					
Number of Survey Forms Delivered to Department	14	8	7	67	7
Number of Completed Forms Returned by Department	14	7	0	23	1
Response Rate	100%	88%	0%	34%	14%
Percentage* Who Have Not Accepted Employment:					
Had previous offer	29%	43%	0%	9%	0%
No previous offer	50	29	0	61	0
Further Studies	0	0	0	13	0
Other reasons	0	0	0	0	0
Sub-total	79	72	0	83	0
Percentage* Who Have Accepted Employment:					
North Carolina	21	29	0	17	100
Southeast U. S.	0	0	0	0	0
Elsewhere	0	0	0	0	0
Sub-total	21	29	0	17	100
Percentage* Accepted Employment, and:					
Satisfied with offer	0	50	0	0	100
Not satisfied with offer	0	0	0	25	0
Not sure	100	50	0	75	0

* Percentages based on number of responses.

Table II (Continued)

EMPLOYMENT RESPONSE RATES FOR SPRING 1974 GRADUATES

BY SCHOOL OR DEPARTMENT

	SCHOOL OR DEPARTMENT					
	BUSINESS (Total)		Accounting	Business Administration		Economics
	Bachelor's	Master's	Bachelor's	Bachelor's	Master's	Bachelor's
Departmental Response Rate:						
Number of Survey Forms Delivered to Department	90	5	25	62	5	3
Number of Completed Forms Returned by Department	69	5	20	46	5	3
Response Rate	77%	100%	80%	74%	100%	100%
Percentage* Who have Not Accepted Employment:						
Had previous offer	20%	40%	10%	23%	40%	33%
No previous offer	38	40	40	35	40	67
Further studies	4	0	5	4	0	0
Other reasons	4	0	0	6	0	0
Sub-total	66	80	55	68	80	100
Percentage* Who Have Accepted Employment:						
North Carolina	27	20	25	29	20	0
Southeast U. S.	6	0	15	2	0	0
Elsewhere	1	0	5	0	0	0
Sub-total	34	20	45	31	20	0
Percentage* Accepted Employment, and:						
Satisfied with offer	79	100	78	80	100	0
Not satisfied with offer	8	0	0	13	0	0
Not sure	13	0	22	7	0	0

* Percentages based on number of responses.

Table II (Continued)

EMPLOYMENT RESPONSE RATES FOR SPRING 1974 GRADUATES

BY SCHOOL OR DEPARTMENT

	SCHOOL OR DEPARTMENT						
	EDUCATION		HOME ECONOMICS		MUSIC		NURSING
	Bachelor's	Master's	Bachelor's	Master's	Bachelor's	Master's	Bachelor's
Departmental Response Rate:							
Number of Survey Forms Delivered to Department	188	104	50	4	32	6	38
Number of Completed Forms Returned by Department	135	61	42	3	27	4	37
Response Rate	72%	59%	84%	75%	84%	67%	97%
Percentage* Who Have Not Accepted Employment:							
Had previous offer	8%	3%	5%	0%	15%	25%	49%
No previous offer	78	37	74	67	33	75	10
Further studies	4	2	2	0	15	0	0
Other reasons	1	5	5	0	7	0	0
Sub-total	91	47	86	67	70	100	59
Percentage* Who Have Accepted Employment:							
North Carolina	7	47	12	33	22	0	31
Southeast U. S.	1	3	0	0	0	0	3
Elsewhere	1	3	2	0	7	0	8
Sub-total	9	53	14	33	29	0	42
Percentage* Accepted Employment, and:							
Satisfied with offer	67	65	67	100	57	0	69
Not satisfied with offer	25	20	17	0	14	0	0
Not sure	8	15	17	0	29	0	31

* Percentages based on number of responses.

Table II (Continued)

EMPLOYMENT RESPONSE RATES FOR SPRING 1974 GRADUATES

BY SCHOOL OR DEPARTMENT

	SCHOOL OR DEPARTMENT				
	TECHNOLOGY (Total)		Office Administration & Business Education	Industrial & Technical Education	
	Bachelor's	Master's	Bachelor's	Bachelor's	Master's
Departmental Response Rate:					
Number of Survey Forms Delivered to Department	54	1	16	37	1
Number of Completed Forms Returned by Department	39	1	11	28	1
Response Rate	72%	100%	69%	76%	100%
Percentage* Who Have Not Accepted Employment:					
Had previous offer	20%	0%	9%	25%	0%
No previous offer	54	100	82	43	100
Further studies	5	0	0	7	0
Other reasons	5	0	0	7	0
Sub-total	84	100	91	82	100
Percentage* Who Have Accepted Employment:					
North Carolina	10	0	9	11	0
Southeast U. S.	3	0	0	4	0
Elsewhere	3	0	0	4	0
Sub-total	16	0	9	19	0
Percentage* Accepted Employment, and:					
Satisfied with offer	83	0	100	80	0
Not satisfied with offer	17	0	0	20	0
Not sure	0	0	0	0	0

* Percentages based on number of responses.

Table II (Continued)

EMPLOYMENT RESPONSE RATES FOR SPRING 1974 GRADUATES

BY SCHOOL OR DEPARTMENT

	SCHOOL OR DEPARTMENT						
	BIOLOGY		CHEMISTRY		DRAMA & SPEECH	ENGLISH	
	Bachelor's	Master's	Bachelor's	Master's	Bachelor's	Bachelor's	Master's
Departmental Response Rate:							
Number of Survey Forms Delivered to Department	26	3	12	3	11	41	3
Number of Completed Forms Returned by Department	17	2	6	1	7	31	0
Response Rate	65%	67%	50%	33%	64%	76%	0%
Percentage* Who Have Not Accepted Employment:							
Had previous offer	6%	0%	0%	0%	29%	6%	0%
No previous offer	47	0	0	0	29	58	0
Further studies	29	0	67	0	29	19	0
Other reasons	6	0	0	0	0	3	0
Sub-total	88	0	67	0	87	86	0
Percentage* Who Have Accepted Employment:							
North Carolina	0	50	17	0	14	13	0
Southeast U. S.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Elsewhere	12	50	17	100	0	0	0
Sub-total	12	100	34	100	14	13	0
Percentage* Accepted Employment, and:							
Satisfied with offer	50	50	100	100	100	50	0
Not satisfied with offer	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Not sure	50	50	0	0	0	50	0

* Percentages based on number of responses.

Table II (Continued)

EMPLOYMENT RESPONSE RATES FOR SPRING 1974 GRADUATES

BY SCHOOL OR DEPARTMENT

	SCHOOL OR DEPARTMENT					
	FOREIGN LANGUAGES & LITERATURES	GEOGRAPHY		GEOLOGY	HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION (Total)	
	Bachelor's	Bachelor's	Master's	Bachelor's	Bachelor's	Master's
Departmental Response Rate:						
Number of Survey Forms Delivered to Department	8	32	2	4	67	2
Number of Completed Forms Returned by Department	8	16	0	4	52	2
Response Rate	100%	50%	0%	100%	78%	100%
Percentage* Who Have Not Accepted Employment:						
Had previous offer	0%	25%	0%	0%	11%	0%
No previous offer	75	38	0	75	44	50
Further studies	0	6	0	25	26	0
Other reasons	13	6	0	0	2	0
Sub-total	88	75	0	100	83	50
Percentage* Who Have Accepted Employment:						
North Carolina	13	13	0	0	9	0
Southeast U. S.	0	0	0	0	0	50
Elsewhere	0	13	0	0	7	0
Sub-total	13	26	0	0	16	50
Percentage* Accepted Employment, and:						
Satisfied with offer	100	50	0	0	50	100
Not satisfied with offer	0	0	0	0	25	0
Not sure	0	50	0	0	25	0

* Percentages based on number of responses.

Table II (Continued)

EMPLOYMENT RESPONSE RATES FOR SPRING 1974 GRADUATES

BY SCHOOL OR DEPARTMENT

	SCHOOL OR DEPARTMENT						
	Health & Physical Education		Parks and Recreation	HISTORY		LIBRARY SCIENCE	
	Bachelor's	Master's	Bachelor's	Bachelor's	Master's	Bachelor's	Master's
Departmental Response Rate:							
Number of Survey Forms Delivered to Department	47	2	20	38	1	12	11
Number of Completed Forms Returned by Department	41	2	11	29	1	11	8
Response Rate	87%	100%	55%	76%	100%	92%	73%
Percentage* Who Have Not Accepted Employment:							
Had previous offer	10%	0%	15%	7%	0%	18%	22%
No previous offer	41	50	54	48	100	45	33
Further studies	34	0	0	24	0	27	11
Other reasons	2	0	0	7	0	9	0
Sub-total	87	50	69	86	100	99	66
Percentage* Who Have Accepted Employment:							
North Carolina	5	0	23	10	0	0	33
Southeast U. S.	0	50	0	0	0	0	0
Elsewhere	7	0	8	3	0	0	0
Sub-total	12	50	31	13	0	0	33
Percentage* Accepted Employment, and:							
Satisfied with offer	60	100	33	67	0	0	100
Not satisfied with offer	20	0	33	0	0	0	0
Not sure	20	0	33	33	0	0	0

* Percentages based on number of responses.

Table II (Continued)

EMPLOYMENT RESPONSE RATES FOR SPRING 1974 GRADUATES

BY SCHOOL OR DEPARTMENT

	SCHOOL OR DEPARTMENT					
	MATHEMATICS		PHYSICS		POLITICAL SCIENCE	
	Bachelor's	Master's	Bachelor's	Master's	Bachelor's	Master's
Departmental Response Rate:						
Number of Survey Forms Delivered to Department	21	4	7	2	44	8
Number of Completed Forms Returned by Department	15	4	7	2	21	1
Response Rate	71%	100%	100%	100%	48%	13%
Percentage* Who Have Not Accepted Employment:						
Had previous offer	7%	25%	0%	0%	9%	100%
No previous offer	73	25	43	100	32	0
Further studies	13	0	29	0	18	0
Other reasons	7	0	0	0	5	0
Sub-total	100	50	72	100	64	100
Percentage* Who Have Accepted Employment:						
North Carolina	0	50	14	0	23	0
Southeast U. S.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Elsewhere	0	0	14	0	14	0
Sub-total	0	50	28	0	37	0
Percentage* Accepted Employment, and:						
Satisfied with offer	0	33	100	0	63	0
Not satisfied with offer	0	67	0	0	0	0
Not sure	0	0	0	0	38	0

* Percentages based on number of responses.

Table II (Continued)

EMPLOYMENT RESPONSE RATES FOR SPRING 1974 GRADUATES

BY SCHOOL OR DEPARTMENT

	SCHOOL OR DEPARTMENT				
	PSYCHOLOGY		SCIENCE EDUCATION	SOCIOLOGY & ANTHROPOLOGY (Total)	
	Bachelor's	Master's	Bachelor's	Bachelor's	Master's
Departmental Response Rate:					
Number of Survey Forms Delivered to Department	55	14	4	34	4
Number of Completed Forms Returned by Department	22	6	2	20	0
Response Rate	40%	43%	50%	59%	0%
Percentage* Who Have Not Accepted Employment:					
Had previous offer	9%	17%	0%	0%	0%
No previous offer	55	0	0	35	0
Further studies	23	0	50	35	0
Other reasons	9	17	0	15	0
Sub-total	96	34	50	85	0
Percentage* Who Have Accepted Employment:					
North Carolina	5	67	50	5	0
Southeast U. S.	0	0	0	5	0
Elsewhere	0	0	0	5	0
Sub-total	5	67	50	15	0
Percentage* Accepted Employment, and:					
Satisfied with offer	100	75	0	25	0
Not satisfied with offer	0	0	0	50	0
Not sure	0	25	100	25	0

* Percentages based on number of responses.

Table II (Continued)

EMPLOYMENT RESPONSE RATES FOR SPRING 1974 GRADUATES

BY SCHOOL OR DEPARTMENT

	SCHOOL OR DEPARTMENT				
	Sociology		Anthropology	TOTAL	
	Bachelor's	Master's	Bachelor's	Bachelor's	Master's
Departmental Response Rate:					
Number of Survey Forms Delivered to Department	28	4	6	1042	188
Number of Completed Forms Returned by Department	17	0	3	726	104
Response Rate	61%	0%	50%	70%	55%
Percentage* Who Have Not Accepted Employment:					
Had previous offer	0%	0%	0%	13%	10%
No previous offer	41	0	0	53	38
Further studies	29	0	67	12	3
Other reasons	12	0	33	4	4
Sub-total	82	0	100	82	55
Percentage* Who Have Accepted Employment:					
North Carolina	6	0	0	13	39
Southeast U. S.	6	0	0	1	3
Elsewhere	6	0	0	3	4
Sub-total	18	0	0	17	46
Percentage* Accepted Employment, and:					
Satisfied with offer	25	0	0	63	69
Not satisfied with offer	50	0	0	10	17
Not sure	25	0	0	27	13

* Percentages based on number of responses.

APPENDIX A

* * * * * *

East Carolina University

Confidential Employment Information

* * * * * *

East Carolina University is participating in a state-wide effort to enhance employment possibilities for college graduates. You can help by reviewing (and correct if needed) Items 1 - 6, and completing Items 7 - 12. Thank you.

1. Name
2. Sex
3. Home Mailing Address
4. Degree
5. Major
6. Month and Year of Graduation
7. A. Year of Birth

   B. Marital Status
8. Social Security Number
9. Ethnic Group (Check one)

   1. Caucasian
   2. Negro/Black
   3. American Indian
   4. Oriental
   5. Spanish Sur-named American
   6. Other

10. Have accepted employment (Check one)

(If you have not accepted employment, go to Item 12)

1. Yes, permanent-type employment in North Carolina
2. Yes, permanent-type employment in Southeast (not in North Carolina)
3. Yes, permanent-type employment elsewhere
4. Yes, temporary-type employment in North Carolina
5. Yes, temporary-type employment in Southeast (not in North Carolina)
6. Yes, temporary-type employment elsewhere

11. If you have accepted employment (either temporary or permanent) are you satisfied with it?

1. Yes
2. No
3. Not sure yet

12. Have not accepted employment (Check one)

1. Still seeking employment, but have had previous offer
2. Still seeking employment, but have not had previous offer
3. Not seeking employment due to further studies
4. Not seeking employment for other reasons

* * * * * *

Please be sure that the mailing address indicated in Item 3 is one through which you would be most likely to receive mail one year from now.

* * * * * *